

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN RECOGNITION OF CAPE COD
COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND
TURNING MILL ENERGY

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2012

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Cape Cod Community College and Turning Mill Energy, Inc., as they enter into a unique partnership furthering green energy initiatives on Cape Cod.

Turning Mill Energy is a locally-owned small business that focuses on research and development in the renewable energy field. Having expanded from its roots as a telecommunications company, Turning Mill Energy has become an exemplar of a successful Cape Cod small business, employing only local Massachusetts citizens. After taking notice of Turning Mill Energy's success, Dr. John Cox, president of Cape Cod Community College, proposed a unique collaboration into which, he believed, the College and the company should enter. Under this proposal, Turning Mill Energy would be given space to continue their research and development with students, as well as the opportunity to design, install, and test new solar carports on the Cape Cod campus. In return, the College would see approximately a 20% reduction in its electricity expenses following the completion of these solar carports. The College and Turning Mill Energy will be officially unveiling these new solar carports together this December.

It is truly inspiring to see an educational institution collaborate with a private enterprise in order to advance the cause of renewable energy. Finding cleaner sources of energy should be a national priority, and I am proud that such important strides are being made on Cape Cod.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing Cape Cod Community College and Turning Mill Energy, Inc., as they work together to support research and development of alternative sources of energy. I ask that my colleagues join me in thanking the College and the company for supporting such an important research initiative, and in congratulating them upon the official unveiling of their hard work this December.

IN HONOR OF LOIS NOLAN
"PAULINE" LARSON

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2012

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, Thoreau famously said most men lead lives of quiet desperation. My mother led a life of quiet inspiration. Thousands gave witness to that and stood in line for more than three hours to pay their final respects to Lois Nolan Larson,

affectionately known as Pauline. My family was deeply touched by the outpouring of the community. It was a great tribute to my mother's lifetime commitment to her community. Several kind statements of appreciation were made by elected officials—from the President of the United States to the Governor of our state; from Senators to House Leaders in Congress and members of the Connecticut General Assembly. It was, however, two articles—one by Tom Condon of The Hartford Courant, the other by Bill Doak of our hometown paper, The East Hartford Gazette, that captured the sentiment, feeling and appreciation of an everyday mom who gave to her community and set an example to emulate. The following are those two articles:

[The Hartford Courant, Oct. 12, 2012]

EAST HARTFORD MOTHER LEFT LEGACY OF
INVOLVEMENT AND ACTION

(By Tom Condon)

Democracy works because good people give their time and get involved. At the municipal level, few epitomized the ethic of participation quite like Lois Pauline Nolan Larson of East Hartford, who died this week at 87.

For decades starting in the 1960s, Mrs. Larson, known to all as Pauline, served the town in most of the ways it is possible to serve. She was a member of the town council and the Democratic town committee, on which she served as vice chairwoman and treasurer. She served on the town's parks and visiting nurse association boards and the cemetery commission. The community center in the Mayberry Village neighborhood where she lived is named in her honor.

She volunteered her time while she and her husband were raising eight children, and while she was battling multiple sclerosis. She inspired two of her children to go into public life. Her son Timothy Larson was mayor of East Hartford for eight years and is now a state representative. Her son John Larson is the seven-term U.S. representative from the 1st District.

John Larson spoke of his mother's battle with declining health in a televised speech at the recent Democratic National Convention, and how she wanted not to be a burden to her family. "Mom, you're not a burden," Larson told the convention crowd. "You're an inspiration."

Many in East Hartford nodded.

[From The Gazette, Oct. 18, 2012]

LOIS "PAULINE" NOLAN LARSON: FAMILY,
POLITICS AND MAYBERRY WERE HER LIFE

(By Bill Doak)

Lois Nolan "Pauline" Larson, one of the stalwart mothers of Mayberry Village and an influential leader in East Hartford political circles, passed away Wednesday, October 10 with her family by her side.

She is the mother of United States Congressman John Larson, and former mayor and State Representative Timothy D. Larson of the 11th Assembly District.

Sunday night a line of mourners waited for up to three hours outside D'Esopo's East Hartford Chapel on Carter Street. Monday for Pauline Larson's funeral in St. Isaac Jogues Church Connecticut Governor Dannel Malloy, US Senators Joseph Lieberman and

Richard Blumenthal and Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro were among the hundreds attending a Mass presided over by four priests from the local and state diocese.

Her daughters read a touching poem that, they said, reminded them of their mother.

Congressman Larson reflected on the influence his mother and father had and their love for one another, reunited at last. Raymond Larson died 24 years earlier.

"The first thing my father would say would be 'you're late', said the Congressman. He thanked the many people for their patience at the funeral home and those who made a difference, caring for his mother during the later years of her life as she battled Multiple Sclerosis and dementia. In particular he thanked his brother, David, who served as his mother's companion and caregiver at the family home on Chandler Street until the decision was made to care for her at Riverside Healthcare Center.

"Why," my sisters would ask, does she have to go through all this? Why does she have to suffer so?" The answer always came back from her caregivers, "Why? She's here to be with us."

Lois Pauline Nolan Larson died peacefully on October 10, 2012 at Riverside Health and Rehabilitation Center in East Hartford, surrounded by her loving family.

Born on April 9, 1925 to the late L. Edward and Carrie Mae (Douglas) Nolan, she was raised in East Hartford where she was a member of the East Hartford High School Class of 1942 and the National Honor Society. In 1945, she married her high school sweetheart, Raymond E. "Archie" Larson, who predeceased her in 1988.

She worked during WWII at Pratt & Whitney then worked part time at the Travelers and various other jobs while her children were young, then full time at several companies including Thomas E. Toomey and the State Capitol. In addition to her family, she loved her community and the Democratic Party.

She was very active in many civic and community organizations, including the Board of the East Hartford Visiting Nurses and the Mayberry Village Revitalization Association.

She served for many years on the Federation of Democratic Women and the Democratic Town Committee, including as Vice Chair. Pauline was among the first women elected to the East Hartford Town Council.

While she always felt others were more deserving, Pauline received countless awards and honors for her community service, including the naming of the Lois Nolan Larson Community Center in her beloved Mayberry Village. Pauline's greatest attribute was the love she gave not just to her family, but to everyone she came in contact with. She made everyone feel as though they were the most important person to her and nothing mattered more to her than what mattered to them. Her caring spirit was a gift to her children and their friends, who were always welcome at the "brick mansion" at 10 Chandler.

Pauline was predeceased by her sister, Eleanor Nolan Elton.

She leaves behind her eight children and their spouses: Sharon and Kenneth Fitzgerald, John and Leslie Larson, Daniel and Dorothy Larson, Christopher and Eileen Larson, Linnea and Edward Bennell, David Larson, Marylou and Raymond Onidi and Timothy and Nancy Larson; 18 grandchildren;

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Maura Downes and Tim, Sean Fitzgerald, Megan Hurlburt and Tyler, Carolyn, Laura and Raymond Larson, Eric Larson and Sue, Glenn, Jeffrey and Deborah Larson, Samantha Jeter, and Jon, Cori Larson, Joe Bennell and Natasha, Chaim Bennell, Gina and Nickolas Onidi, and Matthew and Arianna Larson; and 11 adored great-grandchildren; she also leaves an niece, Candace Bryan, and nephew Brian Elton; and several cousins and extended family members. Pauline's family extends a very special thanks to Dr. Roy Zagieboylo, Karen Chadderton and the entire staff at Riverside who took such loving care of her, especially Delanney, Kathy, Charmaine, Janet, and Maria and many other who treated her with compassion and dignity.

**RECOGNIZING DAVE ROBERTSON
ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE
METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2012

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and commend David J. Robertson on the occasion of his retirement from the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, where he has served with distinction for the past 26 years, culminating in his appointment as executive director a decade ago.

The Council of Governments functions as the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the National Capital Region, and it is comprised of 21 regional governments representing Virginia, Maryland and the District of Columbia. COG and its leadership play a key role in coordinating the regional response on issues ranging from Chesapeake Bay preservation to affordable housing and from homeland security to transportation planning. Those activities are financed by the member jurisdictions, federal and state grants, and private sector funds.

Dave has been a mainstay at COG, where he began as a regional planner in 1986. Throughout his tenure, Dave has held a series of roles, both technical and managerial, and prior to being named executive director, he was head of COG's Department of Human Services, Planning and Public Safety. In a region with overlapping local, state, and federal interests and competition, Dave has proven adept at keeping the organization's staff and membership focused on the mission of addressing our shared challenges to improve the lives of our collective constituents.

It was my great pleasure to serve on the GOC board of directors while I was a member of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. I also chaired the COG board in 2000 and collaborated with Dave on a number of projects, including my initiative to increase telework among the regional governments. In addition, I chaired COG's Emergency Preparedness Council, where Dave was instrumental in coordinating response and preparedness efforts not only among the local governments, but also with the states and the federal government, which is no small task as each major weather incident or natural disaster reminds us.

In addition to his role at COG, Dave also served on a number of regional organizations,

including the American Red Cross of the National Capital Region, the Greater Washington Board of Trade, the American Planning Association, the International City/County Management Association, and the Washington Region for Justice and Inclusion.

Prior to his tenure with COG, Dave worked for the National Association of Home Builders and former member of Congress David Bonior of Michigan. He received a Master of Urban Planning degree from George Washington University, and also holds a Bachelor's degree from Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Dave Robertson on his many accomplishments and thanking him for his tremendous service to the Council of Governments and the National Capital Region. Thanks to Dave's leadership, we spent more time focusing on those challenges that unite, rather than divide us, and that continues to serve as a lesson for us all to follow. We wish Dave the best of luck in his future endeavors.

IN HONOR OF MIKE TYNER

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2012

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Mike Tyner, a remarkable young man who died tragically last year. Mike was a field crew leader for the Ventana Wildlife Society's California Condor Reintroduction Program. During a powerful wind storm on November 30th, 2011, a falling tree branch struck and killed Mike when he was in the field in Big Sur, California, to ensure the safety of a newly released endangered condor. He was just 35 years old.

Mike graduated from California Polytechnic University San Luis Obispo with a Bachelor of Science degree in Ecology and Systematic Biology. He lived a life of accomplishment, serving as a research assistant at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo and a volunteer for the USDA Forest Service. He joined the Ventana Wildlife Society in 2002, studying songbirds along the Carmel River and conducting surveys for Spotted Owls in the Big Sur backcountry. He also achieved success in his work as an ornithologist, botanist, and a desert biological monitor.

In 2006, Mike began working full-time on Ventana Wildlife Society's California Condor Recovery program. He quickly rose to the position of field crew leader. Mike was dedicated to protecting condors, even in the most challenging conditions. During the 2008 Big Sur wildfire, Mike and his team safely rescued seven captive condors that were held in a field pen in the fire's path. Thanks in large part to Mike's efforts, all biologists and condors were brought to safety. Releasing a young condor into the wild was not only Mike's last act of service to our earth community, but it was an act that captured the essence of Mike's legacy.

Mike is survived by his loving mother, Nancy Ann Tyner; three sisters, Theresa Ann Guire, Mary Cynthia Clayton, and Kathleen Julie Morgan; two brothers, Timothy Gordon Skeens and John Eric Skeens; and his many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his father, Jack Lue Tyner.

Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to rise today to honor the memory of Mike Tyner. Mike gave his life to help endangered species flourish, and his life is a reminder that we can all play a part in devoting ourselves to making the world a healthier and more beautiful place.

**HONORING SENIOR MASTER
SERGEANT BRIAN FORSYTHE FOR
HIS SERVICE TO OUR GREAT
NATION**

HON. CLIFF STEARNS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2012

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize United States Air Force Senior Master Sergeant Brian Forsythe for his service to our great nation. A resident of Florida, SMSgt Forsythe has honorably served for 21 years and will be retiring in January of 2013. His contributions ensure the greatest Air Force in the world completes their mission statement to fly, fight, and win. . . in air, space, and cyber space through the mastery of various positions including: Wing Functional Manager, Command Group Superintendent, and Infrastructure Section Chief. SMSgt Forsythe graduated from the Air Force Airmen Leadership School, Air Force Senior Noncommissioned Officer Academy, and Southwestern College, among others.

In his 21 years of dedicated service, SMSgt Forsythe has displayed both patriotism and bravery through his successful deployments in Operations Southern Watch, Northern Watch, Iraqi Freedom, and Enduring Freedom. As a selfless mentor, he has inspired numerous US and Allied Airmen earning recognition for individual accomplishments.

His life is a living testament to the courage and duty our men and women in the armed forces possess, so that freedom and liberty may endure. On behalf of Florida's Sixth Congressional District, I extend my congratulations to SMSgt Brian Forsythe on his retirement from the United States Air Force.

**CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF AL-
BERT B. RATNER ON THE OCCA-
SION OF HIS 85TH BIRTHDAY**

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2012

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Mr. Albert Ratner of Cleveland, Ohio. Mr. Ratner celebrates his 85th birthday on December 27 of this year. In celebration of this milestone, his family and friends are honoring him on December 26, 2012.

Albert Ratner was born in 1927 in Cleveland, Ohio. He graduated from Cleveland Heights High School in 1946 and from Michigan State University in 1951. Due to his extensive civic, philanthropic and business history, Albert Ratner also holds an Honorary Doctor of Laws Degree from Long Island University and an Honorary Doctor of Engineering Degree from Polytechnic University, both in Brooklyn, New York. He served in the United States Army. Together, he and his wife Faye

raised two children, Deborah and Brian. Though Faye passed, he and his wife Audrey have been married since 1980.

Al developed Forest City Enterprises, Inc. into a cornerstone company and currently serves as Co-Chairman of the Board Emeritus. He has guided his company throughout the decades to become a respected and well-known corporation. At the same time, Al has served on more than two dozen boards and commissions, where his leadership is legendary.

His philanthropy, civic-mindedness and business acumen have earned Al Ratner numerous accolades. Some of these include Downtown Cleveland Recognition Award, Builders' Magazine 20th Gold Nugget Award, the Charles Eisenman Award, the U.S. Department of HUD's Agora Award, Harvard Business Club of Cleveland's Business Statesman of the Year, Financial World Magazine's CEO of the Year and Bronze Medal, Cleveland Business Hall of Fame, Urban Land Institute's J.C. Nichols Prize for Visionaries in Urban Development, and Michigan State University's Distinguished Alumni Award.

I have been privileged to work with Al Ratner on several initiatives and have appreciated his wise counsel. He epitomizes "a life well-lived." He is a corporate and community leader with boundless energy who has made an indelible contribution to the greater Cleveland community. Not known to mince words, his insights, advice and counsel are sought broadly. He is always willing to assist, to lead and to care. I join his family and friends, his employees and the residents of Cleveland in wishing Al Ratner the happiest of birthdays, with a wish for many more. Onward!

RECOGNIZING THE HONORABLE
MARY KERWIN'S LEADERSHIP IN
THE COMMUNITY OF TROY,
MICHIGAN

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2012

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mary Kerwin, my friend and a leader in the community of Troy, Michigan. This year, Mary has been recognized as Leadership Troy's Distinguished Citizen of 2012.

Each year, Leadership Troy recognizes a single community member as its Distinguished Citizen for their volunteer contributions to Troy that have gone above and beyond the requirements of their employment, improving the quality-of-life in Troy. Mary, with her twenty-four years of service in both the non-profit and public sectors of Troy, has on countless occasions demonstrated courage and leadership that has moved her community forward.

Mary's passion for building a stronger, more vibrant and better connected community has been a guiding force that has permeated every facet of her life. It is seen in her volunteer work for countless community organizations like the Troy Community Coalition, The Friends of the Troy Library, the League of Women Voters and the Troy Historical Society. Mary's passion has also reached into the community of her Parish at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church where she serves as a Lector, Eucharistic Minister and part of its Women's Fellowship program.

The one area where Mary's enthusiasm for the Troy community has been so poignantly felt is in her work with young people. Mary has served in a variety of positions both volunteer and elected within the Troy Public Schools. She dedicated personal time to being a mentor to youth, served as President of the PTA at Hamilton Elementary and served on the PTA President's Council as its Parliamentarian. As a twice-elected Troy School Board member, she brought the knowledge of her experiences and pragmatic problem-solving approach to improving the educational experience of the District's students.

Mary later brought this same approach to Troy citizens while serving on the Troy City Council. During her four-year term, she served as Mayor Pro-Tern and as President of the Michigan Municipal League's Elected Officials Academy, a program which helped local elected officials improve and perfect their leadership skills to better serve the communities they represent.

Today, Mary continues to be an active participant in the Troy community and the broader Southeast Michigan region. In her professional capacity, she serves as the Development and Special Events Director for the Boys and Girls Club of Troy, which is actively engaging youth to identify and develop the skills of future leaders. This is a pursuit that Mary also supports through her work at the University of Michigan-Dearborn Institute for Local Government, which is helping the future elected leaders of our region to hone their abilities.

Mr. Speaker, our local leaders are an integral part of the fabric of our Nation, and this is witnessed by the passion Mary has injected not only into building a stronger community in Troy, but also ensuring that we are working to build a brighter future with more opportunity for future generations. It is again a great honor to congratulate her on her award as Leadership Troy's Distinguished Citizen of 2012. I know that Mary's passion will continue to be a driving force in her work within the Troy and the Southeast Michigan communities to build a stronger and more secure future for the region.

TRIBUTE TO PHILLIP JAMES
CLINE

HON. DEVIN NUNES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2012

Mr. NUNES. Mr. Speaker, alongside my colleague, Congressman KEVIN MCCARTHY, we rise today to honor Phillip James Cline, District Attorney of Tulare County, on the occasion of his retirement.

Mr. Cline is a Tulare County native, having graduated from Exeter Union High School, College of the Sequoias, California State University Fresno, and San Joaquin College of Law. He also served in the United States Air Force as a Staff Sergeant.

After joining the bar and working briefly in private practice, Mr. Cline joined the District Attorney's Office in 1978. He served as a prosecutor for more than 30 years, specializing in homicide cases and winning numerous high-profile death penalty cases.

In 1992, Mr. Cline began serving as District Attorney. Re-elected three times, he initiated

programs to address workers' compensation and automobile insurance fraud, domestic violence, major narcotics, sexual assault and child abuse, welfare fraud, auto theft, gang violence and child abduction, among others. He created the state's first Rural Crime Program, designed to protect the agricultural industry, and developed other programs addressing consumer fraud, career criminal prosecution, victim's services, elder abuse prosecution and the safe neighborhoods program. Mr. Cline and his staff also implemented programs designed to strike at the root causes of crime. These included a program to reduce teen pregnancy, which received statewide recognition, as well as a Veterans' Court to address the needs of combat veterans.

Mr. Cline is a member of many professional and philanthropic organizations. He is past president of the Tulare County Bar Association and is an active member of the California and National District Attorney's Associations. He is the only District Attorney ever elected president of the Tulare County Police Chiefs' Association. Mr. Cline has also served on the boards of the HEART after-school program and the Tulare County Library Foundation, among others. He has been active in Pro Youth Walk Run, the Justice Run and the annual Victims of Homicide Memorial Quilt Ceremony.

Please join Congressman MCCARTHY and me in congratulating Mr. Phillip James Cline on his retirement from his position as District Attorney of Tulare County.

HONORING MR. CHUCK BANKSTON

HON. LYNN A. WESTMORELAND

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2012

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, I come to you today to honor Mr. Chuck Bankston. Chuck has been elected to chair the National Lumber and Building Material Dealers Association.

Chuck has proven himself to be the man for the job over the years. A native of Barnesville, GA, Chuck attended Georgia Southern and graduated with a degree in marketing. He then became the fourth generation owner and president of his family business, Bankston Lumber. Under Chuck's leadership, Bankston Lumber is debt-free and has remained profitable every year in spite of these tough economic times. Chuck believes in enjoying life and his work, so much so that he has a sign in his warehouse that reads: "If you're not having fun, you're fired."

Prior to his recent nomination, Chuck served as the chair of the Construction Suppliers Association, as well as the Georgia Senate Lien Law Advisory Committee. Having owned my own construction business, the work Chuck has done to protect and represent the interests of independent building dealers throughout Georgia and Alabama is not only appreciated, but well respected. In 2008, he was honored with the National Lumber and Building Material Dealers Association's Grassroots Dealer of the Year Award for his participation in legislative matters.

Having visited Bankston Lumber and seen its operations, I know that Chuck will put the same amount of dedication, passion, and hard

work into this position as he has his family's business. I am honored to help celebrate my friend Chuck's appointment as chair, and Joan and I wish him the very best as he leads the National Lumber and Building Material Dealer Association to great things.

TRIBUTE TO PHILLIP JAMES
CLINE

HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2012

Mr. MCCARTHY of California. Mr. Speaker, alongside my colleague, Congressman DEVIN NUNES, we rise today to honor Phillip James Cline, District Attorney of Tulare County, on the occasion of his retirement.

Mr. Cline is a Tulare County native, having graduated from Exeter Union High School, College of the Sequoias, California State University Fresno, and San Joaquin College of Law. He also served in the United States Air Force as a Staff Sergeant.

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In 1992, Mr. Cline began serving as District Attorney. Re-elected three times, he initiated programs to address workers' compensation and automobile insurance fraud, domestic violence, major narcotics, sexual assault and child abuse, welfare fraud, auto theft, gang violence and child abduction, among others. He created the state's first Rural Crime Program, designed to protect the agricultural industry, and developed other programs addressing consumer fraud, career criminal prosecution, victim's services, elder abuse prosecution and the safe neighborhoods program. Mr. Cline and his staff also implemented programs designed to strike at the root causes of crime. These included a program to reduce teen pregnancy, which received statewide recognition, as well as a Veterans' Court to address the needs of combat veterans.

Mr. Cline is a member of many professional and philanthropic organizations. He is past president of the Tulare County Bar Association and is an active member of the California and National District Attorney's Associations. He is the only District Attorney ever elected president of the Tulare County Police Chiefs' Association. Mr. Cline has also served on the boards of the HEART after-school program and the Tulare County Library Foundation, among others. He has been active in Pro Youth Walk Run, the Justice Run and the annual Victims of Homicide Memorial Quilt Ceremony.

Please join Congressman NUNES and me in congratulating Mr. Phillip James Cline on his retirement from his position as District Attorney of Tulare County.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF HAR-
LEM'S COMMUNITY LEADER
DOROTHY MAE SKINNER

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2012

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Harlem's community leader Dorothy Mae Skinner, who passed away on Monday, November 26, 2012. I first met Dorothy in my early years in the U.S. House of Representatives in her role as a community activist, concerned resident, and devoted parent.

Dorothy was very engaged in the war on drugs in the 1970's and 1980's and became active with the New York City Police Department 30th and 32nd Precincts and community councils. Dorothy was both friend and foe of the neighborhood drug dealers, for they all loved her but knew she was leading the fight against them, a fight she handily won. As President of the Block Association, she organized block parties, jazz mobiles, Halloween parties in Hamilton Park, and coordinated activities with the Police Athletic League (PAL).

Dorothy Mae Skinner joined the Board of Directors of the West Harlem Group Assistance, Inc., one of Harlem's oldest and largest community based development organizations, which was established more than 30 years ago to revitalize the under-invested West and Central Harlem communities—riddled with dilapidated and abandoned buildings.

Dorothy served as Chairperson of West Harlem Group Assistance Board of Directors for over 20 years and served as the Secretary until her passing. She helped guide the vision of WHGA to recreate a community in which all responsible residents, community-based organizations, and other stakeholders are mobilized and firmly committed to working together willingly and cooperatively. This ensured that Harlem was positioned to enter the 21st century as a safe, socially stable, healthy, economically sound, well-educated and informed, and politically strong community.

Dorothy Mae Skinner was born on June 22, 1926, to the late Herman and Gladys Harris. She was the eldest of 12 children born to that union. With that size family, Dorothy grew up with a great sense of family values, which continued with her own family. Dorothy met and married Robert Skinner on December 24, 1946. They were married for 34 years and were blessed with 6 children: (Butch) Robert, (D.G.) Dorian, Roberta, Rene, Diane, and Cheryl, whom she nurtured and cherished. She is pre-deceased by her eleven siblings and her husband, Robert.

Dorothy loved to travel and it did not matter if it was local or long distance. She continued to preach and teach family values, as she believed in family outings. Every weekend during the summer she would either take her children away, or send her children to the movies or penny arcade. Most people reserve a hotel room when going on vacation, but Dorothy would rent an apartment for a week to accommodate her children and their friends. She also organized yearly dude ranch trips during the summer and Ski trips during the winter.

Educated in the NYC public schools, Dorothy was a determined young woman who received her GED at age 35 and continued her

education and attended City College of New York. She truly believed in education and was employed by the NYC Department of Education for a number of years, nurturing and caring for many young lives, until her retirement at age 65. Many years later, as she would often sit on her stoop, former students, now grown, would stop by and chat with her.

Dorothy was very involved in the Mt Pisgah Baptist Church where she served for several years as Deaconess. She was known to many as Mrs. Skinner, Dorothy, Grandma, or Grandma Dee. Dorothy enjoyed scratchoff and sometimes made a pretty penny too, which kept her scratching.

Mr. Speaker, great women like our beloved Dorothy are precious gifts we temporarily have in this world, but their assistance, contributions and accomplishments are far remembered and everlasting. I ask you, my colleagues, to join me in celebrating the life of Dorothy Mae Skinner.

HONORING THE LIFE OF RICHARD
D. RUPPERT, MD

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2012

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a remarkable human being, Dr. Richard Ruppert. Dr. Ruppert unexpectedly passed from this life on October 22, 2012. Dr. Ruppert was a friend and advisor to many, including me, and we were indeed privileged to have known him.

Born in Rural Ohio 81 years ago, Richard Ruppert worked in the family farm for five years after he graduated from high school. He then went on to Ohio State University, where he received his undergraduate and medical degrees. While at Ohio State University, he met and married his wife, Elizabeth Ruppert, MD.

Following his residency, Dr. Ruppert returned to OSU, where he was professor of gastroenterology in the Department of Medicine for nine years. He was named assistant dean of the College of Medicine in 1970, adding medical director for patient services two years later. He was named vice chancellor for health affairs at the Ohio Board of Regents in 1974, and in 1977 Dr. Ruppert became the third president of the Medical College of Ohio. During his 16 year term, the Medical College of Ohio saw unprecedented growth, was established as a leader in medicine, and came into its own as a premier institution. Dr. Ruppert's able guidance directed the Medical College of Ohio through an illustrious time and his leadership is unparalleled. As one colleague described it, "Much of MCO's success can be credited to Richard D. Ruppert. From a new college on a divided campus—one part farmland and the other a deteriorating county hospital complex—he provided guidance and the political skills to develop the new campus to its present ten structures . . . The school has emerged from its early growing pains to achieve an identity as a quality medical institution during Dr. Ruppert's tenure, with a large credit due to his leadership and vision."

Even as he presided at the helm of the medical college, Dr. Ruppert gave himself to civic affairs. He served a decade on the Toledo Lucas County Port Authority Board, four

as chair. He was a Rotarian, serving one term as president. He chaired the United Way of Greater Toledo campaign, was a member and president of the Ohio Historical Society Board and member of the Hayes Presidential Center. He served a decade as trustee, campaign chair, and president of the Fort Meigs Historical Society and was president of the Torch Club.

In all things: family, work, and community, Dr. Richard Ruppert gave all. He leaves a legacy few could match. His brilliance, humor, grace, kindness and insatiable curiosity and love of life were true gifts. He and his wife Libby have been a team unmatched, a gift that keeps giving to us all—our community, advanced medicines, academic excellence, friends and colleagues, loyalty to community, persevering leadership. Dr. Richard Ruppert made a difference for humanity and we are eternally grateful for his life and service to America.

HONORING THE EU FOR RECEIVING THE 2012 NOBEL PEACE PRIZE

HON. CLIFF STEARNS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2012

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, December 10, 2012, Nobel Committee Chairman Thorbjørn Jagland presented European Leaders with the Nobel Peace Prize. The European Union (EU) received the distinguished award for its promotion of peace and human rights. Since the end of World War II, Europe has seen six decades without wars, turning a continent historically known for conflicts into a continent of peace.

Since the formation of the European Union's initial organizations, there has not been a single hostile incident between the member states now known as the European Union. While there has been violence and war on the edges of the EU, such as the Balkan Wars, these did not happen between EU members, and now with the goal of full EU membership the nations of the Balkans are beginning to look forward to the future.

Membership in the EU requires a nation to have a fully operating democratic government, protection of civil liberties for a broad variety of minorities, recognition of private property and a fully functioning free enterprise economy. EU membership is a demand for democracy and free enterprise which brings peace and security to every country that has joined. The growth from six western European countries to an organization of 27 member states that represent over 500 million people with a Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of \$17.6 trillion is a transatlantic accomplishment worth noting for generations to come. The U.S. can take pride in the support and cooperation it has provided the EU over the years, with both our economies representing 54% of world GDP and is responsible for 14 million "on shored" jobs on both sides of the Atlantic.

Mr. Speaker, peace is not simply an era without war, but a common goal we share and are committed to maintaining. Both our constituencies are faced with terrorism, climate change, and recovering economies. These problems know not of party lines or of national

borders. We are encouraged by the EU's achievements as a community of nations that have overcome so much in the pursuit of peace. Where there was war, now is peace. As we continue to work closer with our allies in the EU, I am confident that where there is now peace, peace shall remain.

Both the EU and the U.S. face a recovering economy. Towards that end, we are encouraged to hear of preliminary discussions regarding a comprehensive trade agreement with the EU and the impact it will have on jobs and economic growth for our economies. While the reduction of spending by nations is required, our efforts should also support a special emphasis on job creation. With the EU and the U.S. as the largest trade partners for each other, reduction in tariff and non-tariff barriers will help facilitate a job creating environment providing hope for the citizens we represent.

HONORING ASSISTANT SECRETARY RUSSLYNN ALI

HON. CHAKA FATTAH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2012

Mr. FATTAH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and thank a tireless advocate for all of America's children, Russlynn Ali, Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, United States Department of Education. Ms. Ali has recently transitioned from the Department into a new role and I would like to take the opportunity to share with this body the impressive accomplishments of the Office for Civil Rights under her leadership.

First and foremost, I would like to thank Ms. Ali for all that she has done to see the Equity and Excellence Commission draft a final report. I am confident that this document will provide a useful framework for policymakers, advocates and families at every level to create a more equitable and excellent system of public education that draws on the skills and talents of every American child. The Commission's success is because of the hard work of Russlynn Ali.

While revitalizing an underutilized federal office, Ms. Ali has led the Office for Civil Rights in an impressive direction, supporting states, school districts and schools in providing the equal access to education every child deserves. During her tenure, the Office launched over 100 compliance reviews many of which addressed first-of-their-kind issues and all of which were innovative in their comprehensiveness, scope, and approach. They entered into hundreds of robust resolution agreements that, with aggressive monitoring, will truly eradicate discrimination at its roots. They revamped technical assistance—conducting an average of 315 activities a year over the last four years, up from about 185 in 2008. They released 10 comprehensive Dear Colleagues and guidance documents, all dealing with urgent issues, and revamped them to include detailed application sections—guidances that advocates, superintendents and college presidents have referred to as "landmark" and "historic." The Office for Civil Rights made the opportunity gap data come alive with the transformed Civil Rights Data Collection. Now the CRDC site gets about 9,900 visits every month.

I ask this body to join me in thanking Russlynn Ali for all that she has done for America's young people and wishing her well on her next endeavor.

A TRIBUTE TO MICHIGAN STATE REPRESENTATIVE PAUL OPSOMMER

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2012

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to State Representative Paul E. Opsommer in recognition of his faithful service as a member of the Michigan House of Representatives. His fulfillment of three terms as State Representative concludes the most recent phase of what has been a remarkable career in public service, and he leaves behind a dedicated legacy in Lansing.

Before being elected to the 93rd district of Michigan in 2006, Paul had a career in business and local government. He served as Director and later Vice President of Action Management Corporation in Flint, and prior to that as a City Councilman and Mayor of DeWitt. His extensive experience serving on local government agencies and boards, including the DeWitt Schools Strategic Planning Board and the DeWitt Downtown Development Association, among others, also gave him a wide-ranging knowledge of issues important to the region.

In the Michigan House, Paul served on the Energy and Technology, Regulatory Reform, Insurance, and Health Policy Committees, and most recently as Chairman of the Transportation Committee and Associate Speaker Pro Tempore. As a legislator, Paul was dedicated to the passage of sound public policy, and his insights and experience brought a fresh perspective to the House.

Paul is an esteemed Michigan citizen and it is with great pride that I dedicate these remarks to his life and career. I wish him and his family the best as he closes this chapter of his life and begins his next endeavor.

ON THE OCCASION OF THE MICHIGAN LOTTERY'S 40TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2012

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark an important milestone in the history of the Michigan Lottery as it celebrates its 40th Anniversary. Over the last four decades the Michigan Lottery has been focused on fulfilling its mission to supplement state education programs through lottery revenues and provide Michigan residents and visitors with fun and entertaining games of chance, while doing so with a commitment to total integrity.

Since November 1972, when the Lottery offered its first game, a 50-cent green game ticket with weekly drawings, the Lottery has generated over \$50 billion in sales. In 1981, Governor Milliken took an important step to help Michigan residents further realize the

economic benefit of the Lottery to our State by signing Public Act 40 into law, which dedicated Lottery revenues to the Michigan School Aid Fund. Since that time, the Michigan Lottery has implemented many new innovative programs and games to offer Michigan residents a great gaming experience, for which it was just recognized with an award for Best New Instant Game by the North American Association of State and Provincial Lotteries.

Today the results of the Michigan Lottery's success are evident in the many ways its programs have benefitted the State. Specifically, over the duration of its existence, the Lottery has awarded over \$26.8 billion in prizes to Lottery participants. In addition, it has donated \$17.3 billion to the School Aid Fund over its lifespan. Local merchants have also benefitted with \$3.2 billion in retail commissions. When the merchant commissions are combined with the awards given to participants and schools, it is clear the Lottery has been a significant contributor to stimulating the State economy.

As a former Commissioner of the Michigan Lottery, this milestone is one that I view with a personal point of pride. While serving as Lottery Commissioner, I was pleased to implement a new innovative game, Club Keno, which spurred growth by offering participants the chance to play a fun, fast and action-oriented game that could yield up to a \$100,000 prize off just a single \$1 bet. Thanks to the success of Club Keno and many other Lottery programs, I was honored to oversee record contributions to the School Aid Fund during my time as Lottery Commissioner.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing the tremendous contributions that the Michigan Lottery has made to the State of Michigan over the last 40 years. I congratulate the current Commissioner, Mr. M. Scott Bowen, on overseeing the Lottery's continued success and support of public education in Michigan.

TRIBUTE TO ALICE VARNADO HARDEN

SPEECH OF

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding individual who has served the citizens of the great State of Mississippi for nearly half a century. Mrs. Alice Varnado Harden was an outstanding teacher, a profound leader and a truly inspiring individual. Senator Harden's unwavering passion for enriching the lives of others and remarkable character and integrity is worthy of recognition by this honorable body, inasmuch as her governing presence will be sorely missed throughout this nation.

Mississippi Senator Alice Varnado Harden was born on April 17, 1948 in Pike County, Mississippi to John Oatis Varnado and Lula Robinson Varnado. She was the third of nine children who grew up in the Washington Addition community of Jackson, Mississippi. A woman of humble beginnings, Senator Harden exhibited extraordinarily strong leadership skills, academic talents and teaching abilities that would later lend to her phenomenal performance as the first African American female to be elected to the Mississippi Senate.

Senator Harden's zeal for education blossomed during her years at Jim Hill High School and Jackson State University. At Jackson State University she earned her Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees in Health and Wellness. Upon graduating from Jackson State University, Senator Harden began a noteworthy career as a teacher at Calloway High School in the Jackson Public School District where she quickly gained the respect and admiration of her students, colleagues and administrative supervisors.

Recognizing that public schools in Mississippi were failing to deliver on its promise to adequately prepare its students for the challenges and demands of an ever changing world, Senator Harden gradually redefined her passion for educating from being purely a lecturer to being an advocate for quality public education. As president of the Mississippi Association of Educators, Senator Harden, despite the threat of incarceration by the courts, called for a strike in 1985 to fight for salary increases for the state's teachers. The voice for hundreds of teachers and thousands of children, Senator Harden's steadfast commitment to effectuate change from the front to the back of the classroom, was victorious. Her steadfast commitment to the pursuit of change in how Mississippi honored its educators led to a statewide pay increase for teachers.

Mrs. Harden's roles as an activist propelled her into the realm of politics. In 1988, She was elected to represent Mississippi's 28th Senate District, filling a seat vacated by civil rights activist State Senator Henry Kersey. During her 24 years of service as a Senator, Mrs. Harden served as chair of both the Education and the Universities and Colleges Committees. She also served on the Appropriations Committee, Corrections Committee, the Fees, Salaries and Administration Committee, the Housing Committee, and the Interstate and Federal Cooperation Committee.

Across Mississippi Senator Harden was known as a champion not only for public education, but also as a giant for human and civil rights. She was a staunch supporter and defender of legislation protecting workers' and immigrant rights and was successful in enacting laws that required the presence of certified translators in all Mississippi courts. Her efforts in the Senate also resulted in pay raises and free healthcare for state employees. One of her most notable victories during her leadership of the Senate's Elections Committee was the passage of Mississippi's Motor Voter Act. This bill empowered citizens throughout the State of Mississippi with greater accessibility to the election polls.

Senator Alice Harden's professional associations, achievements and awards are numerous and impressive. They speak volumes with regards to her service and vision for Mississippi communities. Senator Harden was a lifetime active member of St. James Missionary Baptist Church, a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, the Women's Political Network, the National Council of Negro Women, the League of Women Voters and a life member of the NAACP. Additionally, she was a member of NOBEL Women, the National Conference of State Legislators, and the National Black Caucus of State Legislators and chaired the Southern Legislative Conference's Education Committee and the Mississippi Advisory Council to the United States Civil Rights Commission. She also represented

Mississippi on the Education Commission of the States.

In striving for academic excellence, Senator Harden pursued her doctorate in Educational Administration at The University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, until her health began to fail. Senator Harden served her state and community faithfully until her death on Thursday, December 6, 2012.

Ms. Harden was married for 37 years to Dennis Lambert Harden. Dennis and their son Sachem brought the greatest and most abundant joy and love to her life. She was often heard talking long hours about Dennis' undying love and his support for every facet and every endeavor that enriched both their lives.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting and paying tribute to the outstanding life, achievements and legacy of Mississippi State Senator Alice Varnado Harden. Her passion for public education, human and civil right and voter empowerment is laudable and worthy of recognition by the United States Congress. She will be celebrated forever as one of Mississippi's greatest leaders.

SEQUESTRATION AND THE CHESAPEAKE BAY

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2012

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight the potential damage that sequestration could cause to vital efforts to restore the Chesapeake Bay.

The Chesapeake Bay is our nation's largest estuary, with a 64,000 square mile watershed that crosses six states and the District of Columbia and is home to 17 million people and over 3,600 species of animals and plants. In 2004, the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Blue Ribbon Finance Panel estimated the economic value of the Bay at over \$1 trillion annually.

This vast resource presents unique challenges—the health of the Bay has been threatened by nutrient runoff, population growth and development, overfishing, and even natural factors like rain and snowfall. For nearly thirty years, the Federal government has been a partner in Bay restoration through the Chesapeake Bay Program, an innovative regional partnership that fosters collaboration among the multiple state and local governments, agencies, and advisory groups in the watershed.

In 2009, the President, with the support of those of us in the Bay states, signed an Executive Order to accelerate Bay clean-up by improving targets and coordinating resources. It's an ambitious plan, and states and localities are working hard on implementation. But they cannot do it alone. The federal government must be an active partner, providing financial support and technical assistance.

For example, the Clean Water State Revolving Fund finances capital projects for wastewater treatment upgrades and helps local governments manage stormwater projects, curbing runoff pollution into the Bay. In Maryland, it will cost over \$2 billion between 2010 and 2017 to make the necessary stormwater improvements to meet its pollution reduction targets. Sequestration would cut nearly \$196 million from the Clean Water and Safe Drinking

Water funds, limiting resources for these vital repairs and breaking faith with our state and local partners on this collaborative effort.

Chesapeake Bay clean-up is at a critical juncture. As state and local governments are working to implement ambitious plans, the federal government must maintain or increase its funding support, not cut it.

Sequestration's meat-ax approach jeopardizes the years of planning and collaboration that have led to this moment, arbitrarily and unwisely slowing progress on what should be a national priority. We must replace sequestration with a balanced approach that includes revenue increases and targeted cuts while maintaining investments in initiatives like Bay restoration that preserve our national resources. The Chesapeake Bay is a national treasure and an economic engine for the Bay states. It must not fall victim to sequestration's ill-advised cuts.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF PASADENA CITY COUNCILMAN CHRIS HOLDEN

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2012

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Chris Holden for his 23 years of service on the Pasadena, California, City Council. A graduate of Pasadena High School and San Diego State University, Chris was a basketball star in school and played professionally overseas. He then returned to California to give back to his community by spending the great majority of his life in serving the city he loves.

He was first elected to the Pasadena City Council in 1989 at the age of 28 as the youngest member of the Council, and served until he resigned in November 2012, upon his election to the California State Assembly. In 1997, Chris was chosen by his colleagues to serve a two-year term as Mayor of Pasadena, the first African-American man to hold that position.

During his years on the City Council, Chris served his Pasadena district with distinction, championing efforts to establish a living wage in Pasadena, crack down on slumlords, create drug-free zones, and bring development, jobs, and services to Northwest Pasadena. Chris has also been a strong supporter of deregulation of Pasadena's municipal utility, a leader of charter reform that created a city-wide elected mayor, and a proponent of policies and projects that have revitalized Pasadena, such as the Paseo Colorado, Old Pasadena, and the Pasadena Convention Center.

His service as a long-time Board member of the Burbank-Glendale-Pasadena Airport Authority and supporter of the creation and expansion of the Los Angeles to Pasadena Gold Line clearly demonstrates his commitment to the entire region.

I know that Chris will be missed in Pasadena City Hall, but I am pleased that he has chosen to bring his unique talents on our behalf to Sacramento. I join my colleagues in thanking Chris for his service and wish he, his wife Melanie, and their children, Nicholas, Alexander, Austin, Mariah, and Noah the best in this new chapter of their lives.

HONORING THE LIFE OF FRANK VENNER III

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2012

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, during the Christmas Season we remember people far and near and reminisce about those who are no longer with us. I rise to remember Frank Venner, who passed from this life in the summer of 2012 at age 85 years.

Frank Venner was born March 8, 1927, in Baltimore, Maryland. After living in Providence, Rhode Island and Binghamton, New York, the family moved to Toledo when Frank was a teenager. He graduated from Central Catholic High School in 1944 and from the University of Notre Dame in 1949. He served in the Army Air Corps. Frank and his wife Ruth married in 1952 and together raised six children. Their children, along with their eleven grandchildren, were his pride and joy.

While in college, Frank began working in radio on the college station. Back in Toledo he embarked on a career over four decades in broadcasting. He started at WSPD, Toledo's local radio and television station. Later, the television component became WTVG. Frank Venner was a news fixture at the station, his journalism respected in the community. His signature features were the popular "Weather-in-the-Weather" show which was broadcast from atop the former Commodore Perry Hotel, the High School Quiz program which he hosted for a quarter century, and the Venner-Ward Report which he co-anchored with another longtime Toledo newsmen Gordon Ward. Mr. Ward recalled, "Integrity was primary in all that he did. His word was his bond." Frank Venner also served as editorial director and news director at the station.

Frank Venner's imprimatur on Toledo news is solid. A true journalist, his impact on television from its earliest days into the 21st century is remarkable. He leaves a lasting legacy. He was a man who often reported what others did, but also went beyond his profession and left our community and its institutions stronger for his presence. His resonant voice became synonymous with Toledo.

A more important legacy is his family. His presence will be missed by his children and grandchildren, relatives and friends. Yet, he lives on in them and in the media he was so much a part of shaping.

IN HONOR OF THE LT. WALTER SOLENSKI

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2012

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the career of a beloved officer of the Coventry Police Department. Lt. Walter Solenski will retire on December 31, 2012 after 37 years of service to his town. A lifetime resident of Coventry, Connecticut, Walter's compassionate attention to the community is known by young and old. Police Chief Mark Palmer described Lt. Solenski as an "every day hero." He is someone who is steady and

reliable; he is always there for the residents of Coventry when they need him.

Following his graduation from Coventry High School in 1970, Walter joined the United States Navy. Upon returning home from a four-year tour of duty he was hired as a Class D Patrolman in his local police department. Walter quickly proved his dedication to his work by actively pursuing training and certification courses. He continued to seek out ways to improve his service to the town throughout his career. This professionalism and diligence allowed Walter to rise to the rank of Lieutenant in April, 1995.

Throughout his time on the police force, Lt. Solenski received many accolades and letters of gratitude from those whom he had helped. Coventry residents appreciated his timely response and attention, especially to emergency situations. Last summer he was chosen by a local committee to be a parade marshal at Coventry's 300th Anniversary Parade—a testament to his importance in the town.

I ask that my colleagues join with me to honor Lt. Walter Solenski and the work he did for the people of Coventry. As he prepares for his retirement with his wife Yvonne, I am confident that Walter will continue to play an active role in the community. His commitment to the Coventry Police Department and to his town will not soon be forgotten.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2012

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, November 30, 2012, I was unable to be present for recorded votes due to illness. Had I been present, I would have voted: "yes" on vote No. 612 (on the motion to recommit H.R. 6429 with instructions); and "no" on vote No. 613 (on passage of H.R. 6429).

RECOGNIZING LISA SANTERAMO

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2012

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise to recognize a departing member of my original district staff, Lisa Wieber Santeramo.

Since I opened my first district office in Coram, New York, Lisa has distinguished herself as among the most competent and hard working members of my staff. Over the course of this past decade, I watched her develop and rise from a staff assistant answering the telephones at my reception desk to her ultimate position as the highest ranking member of my district staff, District Office Director.

Lisa was born and raised in Holbrook. She attended Sachem High School, the largest high school in the township, where she first developed her talent for public affairs as a leader in student government. She brought her enthusiasm and passion for leadership to my first campaign and to my congressional office after graduating from Stony Brook University where she was also involved in student leadership. While an undergraduate at Stony

Brook, Lisa spent a semester interning with Minority Leader Gephardt.

Having skillfully proved her ability to manage casework and the many important responsibilities of my constituent services operation, Lisa was promoted to manage special projects and coordinate intergovernmental affairs. She excelled in these areas and built a reputation for solving problems and delivering outstanding service to my constituents. Thus, her promotion to District Office Director in January of 2012 was well earned and richly deserved.

Lisa has proven time and again that she is self-motivated and is constantly striving to assume ever greater responsibility. I have such tremendous confidence in Lisa that I asked her to take an official leave of absence to manage my campaign for re-election in 2008. Lisa has since managed my past two campaigns in 2010 and 2012, which were the two most challenging races in my congressional career. Lisa presided over each of these three consecutive campaigns with skill, determination and an unparalleled work ethic.

Lisa has indeed proven invaluable and achieved all of this success by the age of only 30. She became a mother earlier this year and now moves on to become the Assistant Deputy County Executive for Intergovernmental Affairs for the County of Suffolk on Long Island. Lisa will be missed very much, but my staff and I are comforted in knowing that she will remain nearby and continue to serve a mutual constituency in her new capacity.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of New York's first congressional district, I thank Lisa Santeramo for her many years of outstanding service and wish her continued success in serving the residents of Suffolk County in the years ahead.

A TRIBUTE TO MR. FELMERS CHANEY

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2012

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Felmers Chaney, a civil rights leader and the first African American Sergeant in the Milwaukee Police Department (MPD). Mr. Chaney passed away on December 5, 2012 at the age of 94.

Mr. Chaney was the son of a dairy farmer and born and raised in Spooner, in northern Wisconsin. He came to Milwaukee to work as a machinist in 1941 but was unable to find work in that field. He was drafted into the Army in 1942. He was sent to officers' candidate school, graduated as a 2nd Lieutenant and commanded troops in England and France.

After the war, he returned to Milwaukee and, at the urging of a friend, he joined the Milwaukee Police Department in 1947. Mr. Chaney became an MPD trailblazer; he was only the 4th black person to serve on the police force serving 36 years as a police officer. Mr. Chaney became the first African American to rise to the rank of Sergeant but this was not without controversy. Felmers Chaney passed the Sergeant's exam in 1954 but was asked if he would consider being a detective with the same pay and no supervision of staff. He declined the detective post; in the mid-60's he

supervised 20 officers of which only two or three were African American. He had a reputation of fairness.

Felmers Chaney was elected president of the NAACP—Milwaukee Branch where he served for 12 years. He was a true advocate for the community speaking out on a range of issues including: education, housing and minority hiring and representation. He once described discrimination against blacks in Milwaukee as a "broken record; it's been going on for the past 40–50 years"

Mr. Chaney championed Milwaukee's inner city development. He was president of the Central City Development Corporation which built the Central City Plaza and he was a founder and president of North Milwaukee State Bank, Wisconsin's first black-owned bank. Felmers Chaney also served as president of the Milwaukee Urban League.

In 2009, Mr. Chaney and his wife, Jessie attended the inauguration of President Obama. Although they both were infirm, they were determined to attend this historic event. He treasured that moment of being able to participate in an event he never dreamed could occur in his lifetime.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud that Mr. Felmers Chaney a civil rights champion, public servant and trailblazer lived, worked, and served in the 4th Congressional District of Wisconsin. Mr. Chaney's legacy will live on through the many people he mentored, his family and the community.

A BIRTHDAY WISH

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2012

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, I just want to take a brief moment to wish a very Happy Birthday to my son, Duncan, who turns 12 years old today. Call it a coincidence, Mr. Speaker, but he turns 12 on 12–12–12. It's a special day for a very special boy.

He's got a lot of great qualities, but it's his dedication to doing what's right when no one is looking that makes me, as his father, so proud. He's also got a great sense of humor and his energetic love for life is both infectious and inspiring. So on this occasion, Mr. Speaker, and as I think about how the last twelve years have gone by way too fast, I want to wish him a very Happy Birthday.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JEAN WARD

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2012

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, during the Christmas Season we remember people far and near and reminisce about those who are no longer with us. I rise to remember Jean Ward, who passed from this life on July 16, 2012.

Jean Ward was born in Detroit, Michigan on March 8, 1934 to Clarence and Agnes Ward. He graduated from Michigan State University and served in the U.S. Navy. Together he and

his wife Jean raised five daughters. His family was most precious to him.

Jean worked with the City of Toledo in forestry, and then began a career with the Toledo Area Metroparks. He became the Metroparks Director in 1985 and served until his retirement after 35 years in service to the organization. During that time he was Founding Director of the Stranahan Arboretum. His tenure brought a growth which established the Toledo Area Metroparks as a hallmark of our region. Jean Ward was "an ambassador of conservation. He had a passion and a dedication to protecting, preserving and improving natural areas for all to enjoy." His legacy will last through the ages. His extraordinary efforts brought him statewide recognition when, in 2009 he was inducted into the Ohio Parks and Recreation Association Hall of Fame and later received a Lifetime Achievement Award.

I was privileged to work with Jean through many years of shared public service. Though he will be missed by all whose lives he touched, his spirit carries forward in the natural beauty his efforts enshrined for generations to come.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2012

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$16,375, 1874,429,255.52. We've added \$5,748,997,380,342.44 to our debt in nearly 4 years. This is \$5 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2012

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, on December 11, 2012, I was unavoidably detained and was unable to record my vote for Rollcall No. 620. Had I been present I would have voted:

Rollcall No. 620—"yes"—On approving the Journal.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2012

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the following law enforcement officers who have been honored by the Horse Shoe Curve Benevolent Association for their service to their communities and continued willingness to put their lives on the line to protect public safety.

Virginia State Police Senior Trooper David R. Gray has served the Virginia Department of State Police for 12 years. During his tenure, Trooper Gray has done an outstanding job as a breath alcohol testing operator, a firearms instructor and a field training officer. As a member of the department's crash reconstruction team, Trooper Gray actively assisted with fatal crash investigations and his extensive knowledge in crash investigations and his devotion to training academy members and newer troopers has gained him notoriety with the force. For these reasons, Trooper Gray is often sought out after for his expertise. He continues to serve his community and mentor to his fellow troopers with professionalism.

Sergeant Brian Rosenberry has served the Clarke County Sheriff's Office since 1985, where he began as road deputy. Now, as court services sergeant, Sergeant Rosenberry provides for the safety and security of all of the courts in Clarke County, is responsible for civil processes in the office, as well as budgeting procedures, scheduling and supervising personnel. He was also responsible for establishing a new evidence storage unit and the successful maintenance of other operating procedures. His commitment to the citizens of Clarke County is displayed through his willingness to serve at the sheriff's office and his countless hours as a volunteer firefighter.

Deputy Tonya M. Kittoe is the school resource officer for the Frederick County Sheriff's Department at Millbrook High School. In addition to her work at Millbrook High School, she is also a dedicated counselor for the Frederick County Sheriff's Office Youth Camp. Before becoming a counselor, Deputy Kittoe served as the secretary for the Frederick County Sheriff's Office Youth Camp, as well as the activities director. As part of the accreditation team at the sheriff's office, Deputy Kittoe played a pivotal role in the office's initial accreditation and again this summer during re-accreditation. Deputy Kittoe's service at the Frederick County Sheriff's Office is greatly appreciated.

Sergeant John R. Austin has served the Winchester Sheriff's Department where he oversees the courthouse and other security operations. Sergeant Austin began his career in law enforcement in 1967 in Prince George's County, Maryland before working at the State Department and the Pentagon. Sergeant Austin is an expert at working with contractors, alarm companies and other issues with the joint judicial center, judges, clerks and deputies and was instrumental in serving the sheriff's office during its accreditation process and was always ready to assist in any way he could. On November 30, 2012, Sergeant Austin retired from his post at the Winchester Sheriff's Department, but his attention to detail and extensive knowledge will be missed. We appreciate his dedicated service to our community.

Major David White served a 33 year career with the Winchester Police Department, where he first started as a dispatcher in 1979. Since he became a police officer on the force in 1982, Major White quickly moved up and earned the admiration of his peers. Over the years, he served as polygraph examiner and training officer and also trained in forensic science and command staff. He is a graduate of the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Virginia. During a time of change at the Winchester Police Department from 2007–2010,

Major White served as an interim Chief of Police. Major White's patience and leadership during times of adversity at the Winchester Police Department helped the department continue its responsibilities as one of the best police organizations in the country. In October 2012, Major White retired from the police department, but he will always be a committed role model and a mentor to many.

Master Patrol Officer Mark F. Castle has served the Berryville Police Department since 2006. He constantly strives to strengthen the department by attending numerous training programs and achieving certifications as a firearms instructor, National Rifle Association instructor, field training officer and police cyclist. Officer Castle has incorporated a variety of drills into the normally static firearms training at the department to aid officers in real-life situations and has helped increase the number of training sessions per year. His constant effort and dedication to bettering the force has gained Officer Castle notoriety among his peers. His service and willingness to share his knowledge with his co-workers is greatly appreciated.

Correctional Officer Michelle See began her career at the Northwestern Regional Adult Detention Center in July 2005. She began as a housing unit security officer, where she supervised more than 50 inmates on a routine basis and has recently been promoted to field training officer. Officer See has worked at several different posts at the regional jail, including community correction, visitation, main control and booking. She is known for often working several posts in one shift, which is something that few officers at her level can successfully perform. Her versatility is an important asset to the team and she was recently nominated for employee of the quarter for her determination and loyalty. Officer See has seldom requested to take a shift off and often comes to work early without claiming the time. Her consistent teamwork and professionalism enables Officer See to work extremely well with the public as well as civilian and sworn staff alike.

The Horseshoe Curve Benevolent Association, organized in 1997, has been honoring law enforcement officers since 2004. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to recognize these officers for their courage, strength and service to the Tenth District of Virginia.

IN RECOGNITION OF JAMES W.
COON

HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2012

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege and honor to recognize James W. Coon, who is retiring after 25 years of distinguished service to the United States House of Representatives.

As the Staff Director of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Jim's leadership, knowledge and counsel have been invaluable to me and other Members of the Committee and this body. Over the years, he has helped guide important pieces of legislation through Congress and to the President for signature, including a major surface transportation bill that will reform and improve our Nation's highway and bridge programs, a long-

stalled and critical aviation reform bill, legislation to authorize the programs of the United States Coast Guard, a bill to improve federal pipeline safety programs, and a measure to protect U.S. sovereignty from a European Union attempt to unlawfully tax our domestic air carriers and operators.

Jim regularly and expertly navigated a difficult political atmosphere and helped ensure, through his untiring efforts and excellent leadership, that good, sound legislation was passed for the benefit of the American people. His in-depth understanding of the legislative process and ability to work with those of all political stripes are unique and respected here in the Congress.

Before I asked Jim to become the Committee's Republican Staff Director in 2006, he also advised me and other Members of the Committee in his capacity as the Subcommittee on Aviation Majority Staff Director.

In addition, Jim served as a Professional Staff member on the Subcommittee on Aviation from 1995 to 1998. Prior to his work on the Transportation Committee, he served as the Legislative Director to Congressman JOHN J. DUNCAN, Jr. (R-TN) from 1989 to 1994, and he was a Legislative Assistant to Representative Robert F. (Bob) Smith (R-OR) from 1983 to 1989. Jim's illustrious career also includes experience in the private sector where he held positions as director of government affairs for both The Boeing Company and the Air Transport Association, where he helped develop legislation to stabilize the airline industry following the tragic terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

His service to his Country goes beyond the halls of Congress and includes 12 years as an Infantry Officer in the U.S. Army Reserves and the Virginia Army National Guard where he attained the rank of Captain.

But of all Jim's accomplishments, I know he would tell you that he is most proud of his family—his beautiful wife Sara and their three children, Harrison, Caroline, and David. Jim and I often spoke about our families and the importance of faith, family, and Country, which were values instilled in him by his parents, David and Maureen.

In January, Jim will be ending a remarkable career here in the House and will be joining the National Air Transportation Association (NATA) as Executive Vice President. Jim has an even brighter future ahead of him, and I know he will be just as successful as he has been here in the people's House. He can be proud of his achievements and the commitment he has shown to public service. Above all, he has been a true and loyal friend and I will miss him very much.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and all of our colleagues to join me in thanking Jim Coon for his 25 years of service to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, the Congress, and the Nation.

HONORING THE LIFE OF THOMAS
JOSEPH

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2012

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, during the Christmas Season we remember people far

and near and reminisce about those who are no longer with us. I rise to remember Tom Joseph.

Of one fact I am sure, Tom Joseph passed from this life a very happy man. What a mountain of a human being! What a life force for GOOD! Tom was a born leader—for his family, his chosen profession, for our community and country. He achieved milestones . . . and he left them with us—in his children and loved ones; in the Plumbers & Pipefitters Training Center which his vision and zeal inspired and built; in the form of Frontpath, a transformative health care institution that exists and has helped thousands of citizens obtain more affordable health care because he made it possible. He was one-of-a-kind . . . just brimming with talent and inventiveness. He gave our community backbone!

Words that describe Tom Joseph: rare, strong, loving, good, fierce, free, solid, fun, wise, loyal. Words that capture his essence: ingenious, unselfish, superlative, irrepressible, indefatigable, hospitable, hilarious, irreverent, effective, analytical, creative, extraordinary.

Tom Joseph was a leader of laboring men and women. He dedicated his life as a builder—of family, of friendships, and enduring institutions of community that create a better life for the people of our country. It is not inappropriate to say he was a real Democrat—he felt it to his core and lived it. It did not come as a surprise to me to read in Tom's obituary that he asked donations to be sent to FreeSpeech.org and Habitat for Humanity.

Tom Joseph was Everyman. He lived life large and deeply. His voice was booming . . . you always knew when Tom was in the room. He was always concerned about others, never missed an opportunity to help others in any way he could.

Yet, his absolute first priority was his family. Terri and Tom's life is a love story: they met on a school bus and at 14, she knew she would marry him. Together they raised Angela, Heather and Daniel, and welcomed grandchildren. Through joy and sorrow Terri and Tom were committed to each other, to their children and grandchildren, to parents and siblings and friends. What a rare privilege to have shared a friendship with this extraordinary man. We are all bettered by our association with him. What he gave us will never die. Truly, Tom Joseph was a man for others. And that is no small feat.

Tom Joseph's legacy: what he gave to his family, his union, his community and country, immortalizes the words of newspaperman and labor activist William Cahn, "The history of America has been largely created by the deeds of its working people and their organizations. Nor has this contribution been confined to raising wages and bettering work conditions; it has been fundamental to almost every effort to extend and strengthen our democracy."

TO SUCH NEW HEIGHTS IN HONOR
OF NEIL ARMSTRONG AND HIS
LIFE

HON. JEAN SCHMIDT

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2012

Mrs. SCHMIDT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of and in tribute to, a great American hero from my district in Ohio, Neil Armstrong.

As humble as the day is long, his life of courage and exploration will live on. I submit this poem penned in his honor, by Albert Caswell "To Such New Heights."

TO SUCH NEW HEIGHTS

To . . .
To Such New Heights!
All in your most courageous humble life,
Neil, as you have soared!
All up upon your most heroic course, as you
so set forth to take flight!
As none before had done!
To higher places, to where such souls of
honor now so grace us . . .
So grace us with but all of their courage all
the more, to so take flight and move
onward so boldly forth!
Ah, to walk upon the moon!
To far off and most distant shores!
As have you so come and gone,
but to so cast out your most brilliant light
as formed!
To so bless our world, all with exploration's
golden glow in sight so very warm!
To such places, where such fine hearts of
honor so ignite us, and so await us to
so live on!
As Neil you were off!
All in what your most heroic life to us has
taught!
As to our world what you have so brought!
As we so look back now all in such awe, as
we so reflect upon what we so saw!
As You So Soared!
To Such New Heights as none had done so be-
fore . . .
All for Women and Mankind's very futures to
so insure!
'Ah, to walk upon the moon!
As you were gone!
Upward and onward, so far . . . far . . .
and beyond, all now so etched in his-
tory living on!
To Soar!
All in explorations quest which so lies be-
fore!
'Ah, To walk upon the moon!
'Ah, a dream as old as Mankind from out of
the womb . . .
"That's one step for man, one giant leap for
Mankind!"
Creating such a Buzz, as Collins your safe re-
turn home so ensured . . .
As out to all hearts you would so implore!
And as a freedom fighter who, for all of us so
fought for!
His parent's pride, a loving husband at his
wife's side, his children's hero and de-
light as so adored . . .
And a Patriot for America and in The United
States Air Force, who so fought in The
Korean War!
Not The Forgotten One for sure!
And as a test pilot, but living all out on that
very edge!
That edge of death, where so many of your
magnificent brothers lives where so
lost and pledged!
Who with their courage and sacrifice our na-
tion so blessed!
And to space that final frontier . . .
And back and forth all in what was so said
here!
As ever in your life Neil,
To Such New Heights as you have so sped
and pioneered!
To Such New Frontiers!
Armed with but only your most uncommon
heart of valor, that which so led all
without fear!
'Ah, to walk upon the moon!
Was but something that within Mankind you
said, that which you so said so makes
them so strive for . . .
As you were as humble as the day was long,
as you would never bath in the celeb-
rity of the moonlight's sweet song!

Moving quietly forth, all with your heart
and soul, body and mind, and ARM-
STRONG!

As now ever my son you shall so live on

With names like Columbus and Marco Polo,
all in search of discovery as born . . .
All because of where your fine heart has
come and gone!

To New Such Heights, to such places where
only magnificent men and women of
honor, so belong!

So belong!

As to this very day so way up there, but lie
still your footsteps upon that moon
once so formed!

As in my heart your words,
I can so hear now so living on!

"That's one step for man, and one giant leap
for Mankind". . . all in that moment
as was so born!

For as long as America has but such blessed
son's!

And daughters as these ones!

Who to her, will so give their most heroic
hearts and souls to discovery to run!

Who, so selflessly do what must so be done!
All in that quest To But Be The Best,

To Such New Heights as won . . .

Then,

To Such New Heights we will all so come!

So Soar!

As upon this earth Neil, your time with us
has so brought forth!

And so taken us,

To Such New Heights and New Frontiers,
that which to you so soared!

With your heart and soul, body and mind,
and ARMSTRONG all the more!

'Ah, but to walk upon that moon!

CELEBRATING THE 98TH BIRTH-
DAY OF THE VILLAGE OF HAR-
LEM'S BELOVED GERTRUDE
HADLEY JEANNETTE

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2012

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 98th Birthday of Harlem's be-
loved cultural icon, Gertrude Hadley
Jeannette, which occurred on November 28,
2012. Gertrude Hadley Jeannette, playwright,
producer, director, and actress of the stage
and screen was born in Urbana, Arkansas on
November 28, 1914, to Willis Lawrence Had-
ley and Salley Gertrude Crawford Hadley.

Gertrude Hadley was raised in Arkansas
where she attended Dunbar High School in
Little Rock. Just before her high school grad-
uation, Gertrude decided that she wanted to
get married instead of attending Fisk Univer-
sity, as she had previously planned. Gertrude
Hadley and Joe Jeannette, II, a prizefighter
and the president of the Harlem Dusters, a
motorcycle club, eloped to New York City in
1934.

In 1935, Gertrude Hadley Jeannette became
the first woman to get a license to drive a mo-
torcycle. In 1942, because of the shortage of
male taxicab drivers caused by the World War
II, she became the first woman to drive a cab
in New York City. During that time, Gertrude
decided to further her education. She took
bookkeeping classes in the basement of Aby-
sinian Baptist Church, and speech classes at
the American Negro Theatre in order to rem-
edy her speech impediments.

In 1945, Gertrude Hadley Jeannette was cast in the lead role in *Our Town*. In 1950, she performed in her first play, *This Way Forward*. That same year, Gertrude and Fred O'Neil appeared on television in James Weldon Johnson's *God's Trombone* on CBS's *General Electric Hour*. Gertrude replaced Pearl Bailey, who was originally cast in that role. As a result, she continued to work in both the theatre and in film and television. Gertrude has worked as a professional actress in radio, stage, film, and TV for many years.

Performing on Broadway, she originated roles in such plays as *Lost in the Stars*, *Nobody Loves an Albatross*, *The Long Dream*, *Amen Corner*, *The Skin of our Teeth*, *The Great White Hope* and *Tennessee Williams' Vieux Carre*. Gertrude's film credits include: *Cry for the City*, *Nothing but a Man*, *Shaft*, *The Legend of Nigger Charlie*, *Cotton Comes to Harlem*, *Black Girl*, and several documentaries and short films.

In 1979, Gertrude founded the H.A.D.L.E.Y. Players (Harlem Artists Development League Especially for You) in answer to the need of professional artists to develop their talents and skills in the theatre, and to enrich the cultural life in the Harlem Community. Gertrude went on to direct, produce, and write her own plays, as well as the works of other playwrights.

Gertrude Hadley Jeannette was presented with several awards for her work and accomplishments. Ms. "J" or Ms. "G" as she is endearingly called received the Outstanding Pioneer Award from AUDELCO in 1984, and the AT&T and Black American Newspaper's 1987 Personality of the Year Award. In 1991, Ms. J was honored as a living legend at the National Black Theatre Festival in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. Ms. J is also the recipient of the 1992 Harlem Business Recognition Award from the National Council of Negro Women.

In 1998, Ms. J received the Lionel Hampton Legacy Award, the Standing On Our Shoulders Award from Delta Sigma Theta, Bronx Chapter, and was inducted into the Bushfire Theatre Walk of Fame in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. On October 16, 1999, in her birth state, Gertrude Hadley Jeannette was inducted into the Arkansas Black Hall of Fame. Her portrait hangs in the halls next to previous honorees such as Maya Angelou, John. H. Johnson, Daisy Bates, and Ernest Green to name a few. In 2002, she received the prestigious Paul Robeson Award from the Actors Equity Association. Ms. J was also inducted into the Hatch-Billops Oral History Collection at the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture.

In February 2003, Ms. Jeannette was amongst 30 individuals who were honored in the "Harlem Is... Living History of Harlem Exhibit"—which celebrated 30 Harlemites (ages 50–100) whose contributions to the fields of art, music, education, politics, community service, and sports define Harlem's rich and diverse cultural legacy. On December 15, 2003, she was honored with the New Hope SDA (Seventh Day Adventist) Church Women's Ministry Award.

In 2009, Ms. J received the Barbara Ann Teer Artistic Award; and in 2010, she received an AUDELCO Nomination for Best Play Revival for her play "Gladys" Dilemma." On March 28, 2011, she was honored by "The Coalition of Theatres of Color"—a group whose purpose is preserving the history and commitment of Black theatre in New York City

and New York State. Ms. J also received honors from the "GBC-Giving Back Corporation" of Los Angeles on April 30, 2011.

Most recently, she is featured in the film "The Savoy King: Chick Webb and the Music that Changed America" which was screened at The 2012 New York Film Festival. Of all her accomplishments, Ms. Jeannette, however, is most proud of the work she has done in and around the Harlem Community.

Mr. Speaker, great women like our beloved Ms. J are precious gifts we temporarily have in this world, but their contributions and accomplishments are far remembered and everlasting. Though retired and well into her nineties, Ms. J is an active and celebrated member of the New York theater scene. I ask you and my colleagues to join me in celebrating the 98th Birthday of Ms. Gertrude Hadley Jeannette.

HONORING THE WORK OF MERVYN DYMALLY

HON. KAREN BASS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2012

Ms. BASS of California. Mr. Speaker, today I'm honored to stand and recognize the extraordinary life of my dear friend Mr. Mervyn Dymally for his decades of public service to the great people of California. Mr. Dymally's life is a testament to the belief within our great country that no matter who you are or where you come from, America with its boundless opportunities remains a place where we can all thrive together.

Mr. Dymally immigrated to the United States from his native Trinidad at the age of 19 years old. Through hard work he went on to graduate from California State University before later earning master's and doctoral degrees. He dedicated his life to public service early—working as a special education teacher in Los Angeles and organizing the most marginalized citizens of our state so that they could use their voices to build a politics that best reflected their values and aspirations.

Mr. Dymally became California's first foreign-born black state assemblyman when he was elected in 1962, its first black state senator four years later and, in 1974, its first black lieutenant governor. In 1980 he became one of the first foreign-born blacks elected to the House of Representatives, where he served six terms and led the Congressional Black Caucus for a time.

Throughout his decades long career, Mr. Dymally made standing up for human rights and the working poor the hallmarks of his service to California and the nation. He worked to improve health care for the poor and sponsored legislation to expand civil rights protections for women. As lieutenant governor he joined Cesar Chavez in trying to protect jobs for farm workers.

Mr. Dymally was a mentor to several African American leaders who followed him into public service, so much so that he was dubbed the "Godfather of African-American politics." He broke down barriers and through it all remained humble and dedicated to the causes that brought him into public service in the first place.

Mr. Dymally's life is an inspiration to us all who serve in this House and today we honor his service.

TRIBUTE TO MARIA GOODLOE-JOHNSON BY CONGRESSMAN JAMES E. CLYBURN

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2012

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dedicated educator, who devoted her life to improving educational opportunities for all children and ending historic achievement gaps in our public schools. I had the privilege of knowing Dr. Maria Louis Goodloe-Johnson when she served as the Superintendent of the Charleston County School District from 2003–2007, and she left an indelible mark during her time in South Carolina. Although Dr. Goodloe-Johnson left this world all too soon, her legacy lives on in the countless students she touched throughout her career.

Dr. Maria Louis Goodloe-Johnson was born September 3, 1957 in Omaha, Nebraska, the second of two children of Jewell Eva and Leonard O. Goodloe. She married Bruce Johnson, on September 22, 2004, and the two had one daughter, Maya Jewell.

Maria spent her formative years in Omaha. She graduated from Central High School in 1975. In 1979, she graduated from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, where she earned a Bachelor's of Science in Special Education. While in college, she also played trumpet in the Cornhusker Marching Band.

In 1980, she moved to Colorado to attend the University of Northern Colorado at Greeley, where she completed her master's degree (Educationally Handicapped, K–12) and began her career as a special education teacher and soccer and cross country coach in the Aurora Public Schools.

In 1987, Maria was named assistant principal at Broomfield High School in the Boulder Valley Schools. Three years later, she became the youngest African American female high school principal in the state of Colorado. While principal at Broomfield High School, she completed her doctorate in Educational Administration, Supervision, Curriculum and Instruction. She next served as director of secondary instruction for the St. Vrain Valley School District before moving to Texas.

Maria joined the Corpus Christi Independent School District in 1999, where she served as Assistant Superintendent. During her tenure, she was one of 20 educators selected from across the country to participate in the 2003 Urban Superintendents Academy, a highly specialized training program with the Broad Superintendents Academy.

She continued to serve in the Corpus Christi District until accepting the position as Superintendent of Schools for Charleston County School District, the largest urban district in South Carolina, in October 2003. Maria is not only the first black but also the first woman to hold the position; Maria was noted for improved student achievement faster than other districts in the state.

In September 2007, Maria was selected as the Superintendent of Seattle Public School District where she served until March 2011.

Maria then accepted a position as Deputy Chancellor, Instructional Support and Educational Accountability at Michigan Education Achievement System. Maria assisted in the

development of a program designed to provide a new, stable, financially responsible set of public schools that create the conditions, supports, tools and resources under which teachers can help students make significant academic gains. It will first apply to underperforming schools in Detroit in the 2012–2013 school years and then be expanded to include low performing schools throughout Michigan.

Maria was a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated. Throughout her life, she was actively involved in community service and received numerous honors and awards for these efforts.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in remembering this barrier-breaking educator. Dr. Maria Goodloe-Johnson was a trailblazer and an innovator in the public school arena. Her expertise and enthusiasm will be sorely missed, but her contributions will live on in perpetuity.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DORIS BEACH

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2012

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Doris L. Beach, who passed from this life on November 13, 2012 at age 74. Doris was a true humanitarian and gave of herself fully. For more than forty years, Doris Beach was the face of Green Thumb, now known as Experience Works Inc. linking capable older adults with employment. A tireless advocate in pursuit of job opportunities for older adults, that service was her passion.

One of six children, Doris Beach graduated from high school in Pittsburgh. She briefly worked in a hospital and broadcasting, but soon found her calling as she set out to make Toledo's Green Thumb the best senior employment service. She sought out employers, when necessary taught them the value of hiring older workers, and matched older workers to the jobs. Explained her longtime colleague Billie Johnson, president of the Area Office on Aging of Northwest Ohio, "She was so out-of-the box and didn't think in traditional terms of how to find employers who would hire retirees. She went above and beyond and knew how to help a retiree package a skill set." Doris knew the work ethic of older adults, understood their needs and guided them toward their potential. She was an inspiration to all who knew her, an amazing woman. We knew her for her "ready smile, a raspy voice, compassion and an air of authority" and she was endeared to us all.

In addition to her life's work, Doris Beach gave to her church, St. Martin de Porres Catholic Church, and her family was most important. She was a well-loved sister and aunt. We share her family's sorrow at her passing, and hope they find comfort in the gift that was her remarkable life. Through Doris' life-giving counsel and street smarts borne of struggle, her persevering work bettered the lives of thousands of older Americans and gave them added meaning and purpose. Our community remains indebted always to the ethic of service to others her life embodies.

HEISMAN WINNER JOHNNY MANZIEL

HON. LAMAR SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2012

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, last weekend, America watched as Kerrville, Texas' own star quarterback received College Football's most prestigious award—the Heisman trophy.

Johnny Manziel, the Tivy High School graduate and current Texas A&M University quarterback, became the first college freshman to follow in the footsteps of some of the sport's greatest athletes.

Known by his fans as "Johnny Football," it seems as if Manziel was born to play the game. His first year at Tivy High School, Manziel started out on the freshman football team. By the end of the season, he was playing on Varsity. He was the only quarterback in America named as a Parade All-American his senior year.

This year, Manziel led the Aggies to a victory over Alabama, the number one ranked team in the nation. He is the first freshman and only the fifth player in the NCAA to pass for 3000 yards and rush for 1000 yards in a season.

The champion who Americans have now been introduced to is the same humble young man that Kerrville, Texas, has known all along. Hard work, determination and graciousness have been Johnny Manziel's trademark all along.

From the halls of Congress, and from the heart of Texas District 21, congratulations, Johnny, on well-deserved award.

CA DEMOCRATIC DELEGATION

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2012

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my thanks and best wishes to the members of the California Democratic delegation who will be departing at the end of this Congress.

Starting with departing members toward the northern portion of the state, I can say that Congress is losing two of its most important and effective progressive champions, LYNN WOOLSEY and PETE STARK.

LYNN has been a strong advocate for peaceful solutions to the world's problems, and her voice for peace and disarmament will be missed. She was one of the most vocal and consistent opponents of the war in Iraq, and fought to stop the surges in both Iraq and Afghanistan. I have been proud to work with her over the past several years to bring a responsible end to the wars. LYNN has also been a forceful advocate on education and children's issues.

I know LYNN will stay involved in progressive causes, and I look forward to continuing to work with her in her new role as President of Americans for Democratic Action. But her compassionate efforts in Congress will be difficult to replace.

The thing I will remember most about PETE STARK is that he was always a fighter for af-

fordable healthcare. With the passage of the Affordable Care Act, we will soon see the day when every person in the country has health insurance. For many years I cosponsored a bill offered by PETE that would have at least provided a guarantee of healthcare for children in this country. It was outrageous that children were not provided guaranteed health insurance or covered by the government in this country, and PETE worked to end that outrage. Of course, PETE was instrumental in the passage of the Affordable Care Act as the chair of the Health Subcommittee, and we owe him a debt of gratitude for those efforts.

Southern California is losing several members who will likewise be missed.

HOWARD BERMAN and I ran against each other in 2012. Nothing that happened during that campaign has lessened my admiration for HOWARD as a public servant and legislator. In the 40 years since his first election to the State Assembly, he has provided California and the country with exemplary service. In fact, as a long serving member of the Foreign Affairs Committee and its former Chairman, this service extended to the world.

HOWARD could have enjoyed the comfort and financial benefits of working in the private sector, but instead chose to serve the public. From local Valley projects such as preserving the Santa Monica Mountains, improving the Hansen Dam, and rebuilding Kaiser Permanente Hospital after the 1994 quake, we owe him a sincere debt of gratitude.

He has been a longtime champion of farm workers, starting with his work with Cesar Chavez and the Agricultural Labor Relations Act, which grants farmworkers the right to organize and bargain with their employers. HOWARD has been a consistent advocate for the entertainment industry, working to protect the jobs of so many residents of the San Fernando Valley.

Under his direction as the top Democrat on the Foreign Affairs Committee since 2008, our foreign aid program has better protected American interests abroad and allowed for a more stable world. Through projects like the Iron Dome missile shield and enabling Israelis to apply for E-2 Visas, he has strengthened the U.S.-Israel relationship. HOWARD has also helped fight against global HIV/AIDS and alleviate suffering in the poorest countries. HOWARD has built a legacy of effective leadership. He will be missed in Congress.

While LAURA RICHARDSON only served three terms in the House, she was an effective leader for her diverse district. She became a respected expert on intermodal transportation issues despite serving only a brief time in Washington. The Ports of LA and Long Beach, and those that work or do business there, will miss her efforts here to improve the transit of goods across the country. Very few members of this House better understand the importance of transit infrastructure, and the need to pay for it wisely, than LAURA.

I have greatly enjoyed serving with my friend, JOE BACA, on the Financial Services Committee and in Congress generally. JOE served his country, first in the Army and then in Congress. JOE served as Chairman of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus from 2007–2008. He fought hard for the rights of immigrants and the wider Latino community in the United States.

And finally, I wish my friend Bob Filner success as he continues on his career in public service as the mayor of San Diego. The

people of that great city have gained a strong leader—Congress has unfortunately lost one of its most important advocates for veterans. Bob began fighting for a better America as a young man—as one of the Freedom Riders to go to the American South to fight for civil

rights, where he was arrested. During his tenure as Chairman of the Veterans Affairs Committee, funding for VA healthcare increased 60 percent and funding for VA home lending increased by 50 percent.

Mr. Speaker, again, I thank my friends for their decades of public service, and wish them only the best in whatever they do after Congress. They will all be missed.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, December 13, 2012 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

DECEMBER 18

Time to be announced

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.

SR-253

9:30 a.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

Securities, Insurance and Investment Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine computerized trading venues, focusing on what should the rules of the road be.

SD-538

2:30 p.m.

Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

DECEMBER 19

10 a.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

Financial Institutions and Consumer Protection Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine consumer credit reports.

SD-538

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the state of the right to vote after the 2012 election.

SD-226

DECEMBER 20

2:30 p.m.

Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.

SH-219